

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Drawing Figures 3 and 5 are being amended to add text legends to blocks 306, 307 and 308.

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Responsive to the drawing objection, Figures 3 and 5 have been amended to add text legends to blocks 306 (multiplexer) and blocks 307-308 (comparators). Withdrawal of the drawing objection is solicited.

The specification has been amended to add section headings responsive to the formal objection raised by the Official Action.

There are no other formal matters outstanding.

The claims have been amended to use transitional terms preferred under U.S. practice. These amendments are only formal and are non-substantive.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the Official Action indicated that claims 5 and 9 were directed to allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-3, 6-8 and 10 were rejected as anticipated by BENNETT 4,127,824. Claim 4 was rejected as obvious in further view of PUTHUFF 3,604,947.

For the reasons discussed below, applicants point out that the claims are not anticipated. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Claim 1 specifically requires at least three energy-storing components connected in parallel to a line connection. Claim 7 recite the step of a signal being led parallelly to at least three energy-storing components connected in parallel. These features are not disclosed by BENNETT.

The Official Action has offered BENNETT as disclosing at least three energy-storing components 17, 18, 19. Although these three capacitors are energy-storing components, they are not connected in parallel to the line connection. Nor, as per claim 7, is the signal from signal input 11 of BENNETT ever led parallelly to these three capacitors.

According to BENNETT, the energy-storing components (capacitors 17, 18, 19) are never connected in parallel to the line input. Rather, switches 14, 15, and 16 operate to connect each individual energy-storing component through a resistor 64 to the line input one at a time. It is clear in BENNETT that at any time only one capacitor is connected to the line input. Therefore, there are never at least three energy-storing components connected in parallel to the line connection, nor at any time is the signal led in parallel to at least three energy-storing components.

Note that switches 14, 15, and 16 are located before the capacitors. As only one of these switches would be closed at any one time, the capacitors are never in parallel nor is a signal led to the capacitors in parallel. The BENNETT solution

provides that there will never come a time when more than one capacitor would be connected to the input line. This is understandable because BENNETT's capacitors 17, 18, 19 are all directly connected to ground as clearly shown in Figure 1. Therefore, closing two of the switches 14, 15, and 16 would just even out the voltages of the corresponding capacitors, and thus destroy information that was stored in the capacitors in the form of a stored amount of charge.

Referring again to claim 1, there is recited "switching means (306) between said energy-storing components and a certain reference for making a connection selectively from each energy-storing component to said reference,". See that the claim specifically locates the switching means between the energy-storing components and the reference. This is not the structure of BENNETT. Rather, BENNETT expressly teaches the switching means 14, 15, 16 located between the input resistor and the capacitors 17, 18, and 19. Therefore, it is clear that the structure of BENNETT does not satisfy the claim recitation.

These differences between BENNETT and the claimed invention are significant, because they essentially turn the filtering character of the connection upside down. In the present invention, the claimed circuit, with the energy-storing components connected in parallel to said line connection and switching means between said energy-storing components and a certain reference, constitutes a kind of high-pass filtering

function, while in contrast, BENNETT's coupling is definitely low-pass. Thus, both from a structural and an operational point of view, the presently-claimed invention is clearly different from, and not anticipated by BENNETT.

Applicants note that the secondary reference PUTHUFF is only cited against claim 4. PUTHUFF discloses an integrating filter, which as a technical solution does not teach detecting the presence of a signal with a predetermined frequency, and also fails to disclose the characterizing features of the independent claims. Thus, even if these two references are combined, they would not satisfy the recitations of either of the independent claims.

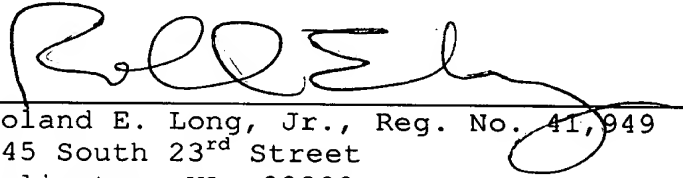
From the above, applicants believe it is clear that the presently-pending claims are patentable over the prior art. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ROLAND E. LONG, JR.', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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REL/lk

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item:

- Replacement Sheet for Figures 3 and 5 of the drawings